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REMARKS

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the telephonic interview of September 14, 2004. Applicant's representatives Mark Kirkland and Alexander Fishkin, and Examiner Joe Pokrzywa participated in the interview. Claims 1 and 27, and U.S. 6,253,246 (Nakatsuyama) were discussed. Applicant proposed amendments to claims 1 and 27. The Examiner agreed that the proposed amendments, embodied in this response, overcome Nakatsuyama.

Claims 1-37, 39-43, 45 and 46 are pending in this application. Claims 33-37 and 39-43 are allowed. Claims 1-5, 20, 22-30, 45 and 46 are rejected under U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Nakatsuyama (US 6,253,246). Claims 6-8, 16 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakatsuyama (US 6,253,246) in view of Cossey (US 6,289,118). Claims 9-15, 31 and 32 are rejected under U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakatsuyama (US 6,253,246) in view of Rhoads (US 5,748,763). Claims 18, 19 and 21 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections.

Claim 1

Claim 1 recites a method of preparing an image for downloading over a link. The method includes receiving a user selection for an image to prepare for downloading over a link. The method further includes retrieving current user settings reflective of desired settings for compressing the image. The current user settings define a first compressed file size for the image. The method further includes automatically deriving alternative compression settings. The alternative compression settings include compression settings scaled from the current user settings. The method further includes defining alternative compressed file sizes for the image. The alternative compressed file sizes are different from the first compressed file size. The method further includes substantially simultaneously displaying to a user a plurality of variations of the image. At least one variation is generated using current user settings and at least one

variation is generated using one or more of the alternative compression settings that define an alternative compressed file size of the variation.

The Examiner, referring to Figs. 2 and 3, column 5, line 39 through column 6, line 23, and column 7, line 58 through column8, line 24 in Nakatsuyama, states that Nakatsuyama discloses substantially simultaneously presenting to a user a plurality of variations of an image where at least one variation is generated using one or more of the alternative compression settings that define an alternative compressed file size of the variation. Natsuyama describes a communication system in which compressed data is sent from a data distribution unit located at a server's side to a data receiving unit located at a user's site. When receiving compressed data, the user can configure the compression settings of the compressed data by adjusting quality or transfer time of compressed data (Fig. 2). However, nothing in the cited figures and passages, or anywhere else in Nakatsuyama, discloses simultaneously displaying to the user a plurality of variations of the compressed data, where at least one variation is generated using current user settings and at least one variation is generated using one or more alternative compression settings. For at least this reason, claim 1 and its dependent claims are allowable.

Claim 27

Claim 27, as amended, recites a computer program for preparing an image for downloading over a link. The computer program includes instructions for causing a computer to receive a user selection for an image to prepare for downloading over a link. The instructions further cause the computers to retrieve current user settings reflective of desired settings for compressing the image. The current user settings define a first compressed file size for the image. The instructions further cause the computer to automatically derive alternative compression settings. The alternative compression settings include compression settings scaled from the current user settings and define alternative compressed file sizes for the image. The alternative compressed file sizes are different from the first compressed file size. The instructions further cause the computer to substantially simultaneously display to a user a plurality of variations of the image. At least one variation is generated using current user

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settings and at least one variation is generated using one or more of the alternative compression settings that define an alternative compressed file size for the variation.

As described in reference to claim 1, Nakatsuyama does not teach or suggest substantially simultaneously displaying to a user a plurality of variations of an image where at least one variation is generated using current user settings and at least one variation is generated using one or more of the alternative compression settings that define an alternative compressed file size of the variation. For at least this reason, claim 27 and its dependent claims are allowable.

Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: _____9/14/04_____

Mark D. Kirkland
Reg. No. 40,048

Fish & Richardson P.C.
500 Arguello Street, Suite 500
Redwood City, California 94063
Telephone: (650) 839-5070
Facsimile: (650) 839-5071

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